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THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST--27 APRIL 1962

1. REACTIONS TO US NUCLEAR TESTING:

THE COMMUNIST THUNDER CONTINUES, WITH THE CHIEF CLAPS IN THE LAST 24 HOURS BEING PROVIDED BY ZORIN AND TSARAPKIN IN GENEVA. EXCEPT FOR MINOR DEMONSTRATIONS BEFORE OUR EMBASSIES IN LONDON AND COPENHAGEN, THE PATTERN OF REACTION IN THE NON-COMMUNIST WORLD REMAINS ESSENTIALLY THE SAME [REDACTED] A NUMBER 50X1 OF NEUTRAL AS WELL AS ALLIED COUNTRIES, HOWEVER, ARE CITING THE TESTS AS DEMONSTRATING THE URGENT NEED FOR PROGRESS AT THE DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE.

2. CAMBODIA-SOUTH VIETNAM RELATIONS:

THEY APPEAR TO BE HEADED FOR THE ROCKS IN THE WAKE OF LAST WEEK'S ATTACK ON A VIETNAMESE VILLAGE BY UNIDENTIFIED RAIDERS FROM CAMBODIA. SAIGON IS DEMANDING QUICK SATISFACTION ON DEMANDS FOR INDEMNITIES AND PUNISHMENT OF THE GUILTY. THE CAMBODIANS--THEIR BACKS UP BECAUSE OF UNFOUNDED INSINUATIONS THAT THEIR GOVERNMENT IS DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE INCIDENT--ARE SHOWING LITTLE INCLINATION TO COMPLY. WHATEVER THE RIGHTS AND WRONGS, THE MOST DISTURBING ASPECT OF THIS DISPUTE IS THAT IT WILL DEEPEN CAMBODIA'S PERSECUTION COMPLEX REGARDING ITS ANTI-COMMUNIST NEIGHBORS--RELATIONS WITH THAILAND WERE BROKEN LAST OCTOBER.

3. LAOS:

A. PHOUMI TOLD THE VIETNAMESE AMBASSADOR EARLIER THIS WEEK THAT THE KING WAS "VERY DISSATISFIED" WITH THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER. THE AMBASSADOR ADDED THAT PHOUMI, TOO, WAS "VERY DISTURBED."

50X1

B. IN SAIGON, FOREIGN MINISTER MAU HAS CONFIRMED THAT THE PHOUMI-BOUN OUM AID SEEKING "GOODWILL MISSION" WILL ARRIVE LATE NEXT WEEK. HE WAS EQUIVOCAL AS TO WHETHER HE WOULD URGE THEM TO JOIN A COALITION GOVERNMENT LEAD BY SOUVANNA.

C. MEANWHILE, THE SOVIET AIRLIFT HAS RESUMED FLIGHTS TO TCHEPONE IN THE SOUTH AFTER A TWO WEEK LAYOFF. WE BELIEVE THIS ACTIVITY REPRESENTS NORMAL RESUPPLY OPERATIONS.

50X1

4. SUKARNO KEEPS DOOR OPEN FOR NEGOTIATIONS:

A. HE TOLD HIS COUNTRYMEN YESTERDAY THAT INDONESIA PREFERRED TO GAIN CONTROL OF WEST NEW GUINEA BY PEACEFUL MEANS AND RESUBSCRIBED TO THE PRINCIPLES OF THE BUNKER PROPOSALS. SUKARNO, HOWEVER, PROCLAIMED AGAIN HIS INTENTION OF ACHIEVING HIS OBJECTIVE THIS YEAR, BY FORCE IF NECESSARY. ON BALANCE, THE SPEECH REFLECTS A MOOD OF MODERATION, ALBEIT A HIGHLY PERISHABLE ONE IN THE ABSENCE OF A POSITIVE DUTCH RESPONSE.

B. THE DUTCH, MEANWHILE, SEEM TO BE IN NO HURRY. FOREIGN MINISTER LUNS TOLD AMBASSADOR RICE THAT HE WOULD NOT BE READY TO RESPOND TO SECRETARY RUSK'S RECENT LETTER UNTIL THE TWO MET IN ATHENS ON MAY 5TH.

50X1

5. ARGENTINA:

PERON APPEARS TO HAVE PASSED THE WORD TO HIS FOLLOWERS NOT TO CALL STRIKES OR DEMONSTRATIONS IN PROTEST AGAINST THE NULLIFICATION OF THEIR ELECTORAL VICTORIES, BUT TO TAKE THEIR CASE TO COURT INSTEAD. HIS ORDERS ALSO PROVIDE THAT STRONG-ARMED TACTICS HE USED ONLY IN SUPPORT OF MORE POPULAR ISSUES, SUCH AS DEMANDS FOR HIGHER WAGES TO OFFSET THE RECENT SPECTACULAR RISE IN THE COST OF LIVING. ALTHOUGH IT MAY BE MERELY A LULL BEFORE THE STORM, IT IS BEGINNING TO LOOK AS IF ARGENTINIANS ARE IN FOR AN UNEXPECTEDLY QUIET MAY DAY.

6. NOTES:

A. [REDACTED] THE USSR MAY HAVE TRIED TO RECOVER SPUTNIK XVI THIS MORNING. 50X1

B. TSHOMBE, CLOAKED IN UNITED NATIONS GUARANTEES FOR HIS PERSONAL SAFETY, IS SCHEDULED TO RESUME NEGOTIATIONS WITH ADOULA IN LEOPOLDVILLE NEXT THURSDAY.

C. IN EL SALVADOR, COMMUNIST FRONT LEADERS HAVE STAGED AT LEAST ONE SMALL ANTI-GOVERNMENT DEMONSTRATION, PERHAPS AS A WARM-UP EXERCISE FOR EITHER SUNDAY'S PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS OR MAY DAY, OR BOTH.

D. PRIME MINISTER IKEDA [REDACTED] TACIT APPROVAL TO A VISIT TO COMMUNIST CHINA BY AN INFLUENTIAL MEMBER OF JAPAN'S RULING PARTY. THIS MAY BE A FIRST STEP IN IKEDA'S PLANS TO LOOK INTO THE PROSPECTS FOR ESTABLISHING CLOSER ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL RELATIONS WITH PEIPING. 50X1

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